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WHA/BSC DREW BLAKENEY, NEA/I THOMAS WARRICK

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SUBJECT: ARGENTINA TO ALLOW IRAQ TO REESTABLISH EMBASSY

REF: A. BUENOS AIRES 81 B. BUENOS AIRES 21

Classified By: AMBASSADOR E. ANTHONY WAYNE FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D)

11. (C) The Argentine government plans to inform the Iraqi government in February, that the GOA would allow the GOI to reopen its Embassy in Buenos Aires "sometime in March", Vice Foreign Minister Roberto Garcia Moritan told the Ambassador in a meeting on January 30. Garcia Moritan stressed that the GOA's reluctance to decide on the matter in January was "not a political decision". Rather, "the timing was not right" for a variety of reasons. (Comment: Although this is welcome news, we would not be surprised if the March timeframe may slip, as this is when the Interpol Executive Committee will meet to decide on Argentina's applications for international arrest warrants of suspects allegedly involved in the 1994 terrorist bombing of the Argentine Israeli Mutual Association (AMIA)).
WAYNE